

Message Text

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47

ACTION CU-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6275

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USIA WASHDC

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STATE FOR CU/EE (PLEASE INFORM IREX), EUR/SOV; INR;
LENINGRAD FOR P&C; USIA FOR IEU, IOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR ACADEMIC EXCHANGES

1. SUMMARY: SENIOR SCHOLAR JERRY HOUGH LEAVES USSR EARLY
BECAUSE OF ACCESS PROBLEM. EMBASSY'S REVIEW OF 1976-77 GS/YF
PLACEMENTS PROVIDED FOR DEPT'S INFO. END SUMMARY.

2. DR. JERRY HOUGH, PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AT
DUKE, CUT SHORT HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE USSR ON THE IREX-
ACADEMY SENIOR SCHOLAR EXCHANGE. HOUGH'S VISIT WAS
INTENDED TO BE BRIEF ONE FOR STUDY OF OBLAST' NEWSPAPERS.
WHEN HOUGH LEARNED THAT THESE NEWSPAPERS WERE NOT AVAILABLE
TO HIM AT LENIN LIBRARY HE INFORMED ACADEMY OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND EMBOFFS THAT HE WAS LEAVING
"IN PROTEST."

3. HOUGH FELT THAT SOVIETS WERE INTENTIONALLY OBSTRUCTING
HIS RESEARCH BECAUSE OF HIS INTEREST IN EXPLORING
REGIONAL DIFFERENCES IN EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH CARE POLICY.
HOUGH BASED HIS VIEWS ON FACT THAT ACADEMY HAD
DONE NOTHING TO ARRANGE ACCESS TO NEWSPAPERS IN LENIN
LIBRARY COLLECTION PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVAL PLUS FACT THAT AT
LIBRARY HE WAS TOLD OBLAST' PAPERS WERE TEMPORARILY NOT
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AVAILABLE WHILE SIGN POSTED IN LIBRARY SAID THEY WERE.

4. HOUGH WAS UNMOVED IN HIS VIEW THAT HIS WORK WAS BEING INTENTIONALLY OBSTRUCTED BY ACADEMY'S REMINDER THAT HE WAS INFORMED WEEKS AGO VIA TELEX THAT ACADEMY COULD NOT GUARANTEE ACCESS TO PAPERS AT LIBRARY, AN INSTITUTION OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OVER WHICH THE ACADEMY CLAIMS (WE BELIEVE CORRECTLY) TO HAVE NO INFLUENCE HOUGH ALSO BRUSHED ASIDE EMBOFF'S REPORT THAT HE HAD CHECKED WITH HEAD OF LIBRARY'S SERVICES BRANCH WITHOUT REFERRING TO HOUGH'S PARTICULAR NEEDS AND WAS TOLD THAT ALL OBLAST' NEWSPAPERS WERE TEMPORARILY UNAVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WERE BEING MOVED FROM ONE BUILDING TO ANOTHER. HOUGH DEPARTED, WE BELIEVE, WITHOUT CHECKING AT MOSCOW'S STATE PUBLIC HISTORICAL LIBRARY, WHICH WAS SUGGESTED BY PROFESSOR PATRICIA GRIMSTED AS POSSIBLE ALTERNATE SOURCE OF MATERIALS HE NEEDS.

5. HOUGH'S LAST EFFORT WITH THE ACADEMY WAS TO CALL ON IT TO ARRANGE FOR HIM TO DISCUSS HIS SITUATION WITH RESPONSIBLE PERSON WITHIN CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE STRUCTURE, SINCE IT WAS "OBVIOUS THAT ACADEMY WAS EITHER POWERLESS TO HELP HIM OR UNAPPRECIATIVE OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CASES SUCH HIS TO SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS." (HOUGH DID NOT MEET WITH CPSU CC REPRESENTATIVE.)

6. WE FEEL HOUGH'S FRUSTRATION MAY RESULT IN HIS CONDEMN-ING ENTIRE PROGRAM OF SCHOLARLY AND ACADEMIC EXCHANGES SPONSORED BY IREX. HE THREATENED TO WRITE SPEECH OR ARTICLE BLASTING INEQUITIES OF EXCHANGE PROGRAM. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT IREX CONTACT HOUGH SOON AFTER HIS RETURN TO US TO DISCUSS WITH HIM HIS EXPERIENCE IN MOSCOW AND HIS INTENTION, EXPRESSED TO EMBOFF.

6. EMBASSY HAS NOTED WITH INTEREST THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN THEODORE DRAPER AND IREX'S MATUSZEWSKI IN THE JUNE ISSUE OF "COMMENTARY" AND THE MAY 27 PRESS RELEASE OF THE CONCERNED SCHOLARS ON CULTURAL EXCHANGES, READ INTO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD BY REP. LARRY MCDONALD OF GEORGIA, ON ALLEGED INEQUITIES IN PLACEMENT AND ACCESS FOR EXCHANGEES. AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THIS DEBATE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE EMBASSY OFFERS BELOW ITS ANALYSIS OF 1976/77 GS/YF PLACEMENTS AND POSSIBLE PROBLEMS. IN GENERAL, EMBASSY CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT EXCHANGE PROGRAM HAS, ON BALANCE, PROGRESSED WLL IN RECENT YEARS, ESPECIALLY IN PAST YEAR, WITH MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS OF AMERICAN SCHOLARS BEING CAUSED BY BUREAUCRATIC INEFFICIENCIES WITHIN AND BETWEEN MHE, UNIVERSITIES, ACADEMY, MAIN ARCHIVAL ADMINISTRATION, ETC. WHERE SOME MAY SEE AN INTENTIONAL

EFFORT TO HINDER THEIR WORK, PERHAPS ALL THAT IS INVOLVED IS THE CHRONIC SOVIET "FOUL-UP FACTOR", AN UNATTRACTIVE CONSTANT ON THE LOCAL SCENE. DEPT., IREX WILL RECALL THAT IN PAST YEARS DIVERSION OF SOME AMERICAN SCHOLARS IN FIELDS SUCH AS ECONOMIC POLICY, SOVIET POLITICAL HISTORY, AND LAW, AS WELL AS MORE TRADITIONAL FIELDS, FROM MOSCOW TO LENINGRAD FOR PLACEMENT AT LGU HAS CAUSED DIFFICULTIES FOR THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF RESEARCH. EXCHANGEES HAVE FELT THAT SCHOLARS PURSUING WHAT THE SOVIETS CONSIDERED TO BE SENSITIVE TOPICS WERE HERDED OFF TO LENINGRAD IN COORDINATED EFFORT TO CONTROL THEIR ACCESS TO MOSCOW INSTITUTIONS AND SCHOLARS. AGAIN, FOR THIS FORTHCOMING ACADEMIC YEAR, A NUMBER OF SCHOLARS HAVE BEEN PLACED IN LENINGRAD WHO HAD WISHED TO BE PLACED IN MOSCOW OR ANOTHER CITY OR WHO HAD REQUESTED JOINT PLACEMENTS MGU AND LGU. THEIR NAMES AND TOPICS, AS INDICATED IN OUR RECORDS, ARE AS FOLLOWS ALPHABETICALLY:

A. BARRAN, THOMAS P. JEAN-JACQUES ROUSSEAU AND 18TH CENTURY RUSSIAN LITERATURE. REQUESTED BOTH MGU AND LGU BUT PLACED ONLY AT LGU.

B. BIRD, VIRGINIA. SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF FORMAL ORGANIZATIONS IN VILNIUS IN THE PERIOD 1860-1914. REQUESTED VILNIUS BUT PLACED AT LGU.

C. BLUMBERG, EDWINA. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PHYSIOLOGICAL SKETCH IN THE RUSSIAN PRESS OF THE 1840'S. REQUESTED MGU BUT PLACED AT LGU.

D. DICKERSON, CONNIE. THE ELECTIONS TO THE THIRD STATE DUMA: QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF VOTING BEHAVIOR AND POLITICAL ATTITUDES IN RUSSIA IN 1907. REQUESTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LGU AND MGU BUT PLACED ONLY AT LGU.

E. FOLEY, ALAN. SOVIET ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVES ON THE U.S.: ECONOMY AND SOCIETY. REQUESTED MGU BUT PLACED AT LGU.

F. HELGESON, MALVIN. THE INTERRELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIETS AND THE PARTY ON THE BUGERNIA LEVEL DURING WAR COMMUNISM. REQUESTED MGU, GOT LGU.

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MRN: 1976MOSCOW011031 SEGMENT NUMBER: 000002 ERROR READING TEXT INDEX
FILE; TELEGRAM TEXT FOR THIS SEGMENT IS UNAVAILABLE

Message Attributes

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